



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

GREEN ROOM, SALISBURY GARDENS

7PM

22 MAY 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors: Jason Mack (Chair), Tony Marvin, Leigh Geddes, Delian Fry, Brian Lucas, James Toogood, Ed Gouge, Stewart Blackmore, Billy Hill, Dave Logan, Stephen Cockett.

No. SUBJECT

PUBLIC FORUM

- a) There were no members of the public present.
- b) There were no comments or questions at this time.

41/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Leigh Geddes.

42/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest at this time.

43/17 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) The Minutes of the Town Council meeting of 10 April 2017, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.
- b) The Minutes of the Annual Town Council meeting of 15 May 2017, having been previously circulated to Members, were taken as read.
- c) The Minutes of the Town Council's Planning Committee meeting of 2 May 2017 were noted.

44/17 FINANCE REPORT

- a) The Finance report for this meeting (32/17) had been previously circulated to Members and included information on Bank Balances at 31 March 2017 and a list of all payments made during March 2017.
- b) Also included was a listing of budget variances during the first month of the financial year.

It was proposed by Councillor James Toogood, seconded by Councillor Tony Marvin and unanimously resolved that:
the Finance Report be accepted.

45/17 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2016/17

- a) Report 33/17 included the Annual Accounts and Balance Sheet 2016/17 for the Town Council and separated Accounts for Salisbury Gardens.
- b) Members requested further information on several items and the Clerk responded.

It was proposed by Councillor Tony Marvin, seconded by Councillor Stewart Blackmore and unanimously resolved that:
the Annual Accounts for 2016/17 as presented be formally adopted.

46/17 INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT

Report 34/17 included the report of the Town Council's Internal Auditor, Gareth Hughes, for the financial year 2016/17

It was proposed by Councillor Delian Fry, seconded by Councillor Stewart Blackmore and unanimously resolved that:

- i) the Internal Auditor's Report be accepted and Gareth Hughes be thanked for his thorough preparation of it; and
 - ii) Gareth Hughes be appointed as the Town Council's Internal Auditor for 2017/18.
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47/17 CAR PARK MANAGEMENT 2016/17

- a) A summary of the costs of and receipts from the four car parks managed by the Town Council was included in Report 35/17 for this meeting showing a surplus for the year of £2,199.
 - b) Councillor Ed Gouge questioned the relatively high charge for Business Rates for the Shore Road Car Park and the Clerk said that he would raise the matter with the Valuation Office.
 - c) No changes to the existing management practices were proposed at this time.
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48/17 MARLBOROUGH ROAD TOILETS

The legal advice on the options for the Town Council's management of the Marlborough Road Toilets was included in Report 36/17.

It was proposed by Councillor Stewart Blackmore, seconded by the Mayor and unanimously resolved that:

the issue be referred to tomorrow's meeting of the Assets & Services Working Group for further consideration and action with resulting final documentation to be approved at a future meeting of the Town Council.

49/17 WEST CLIFFS SHELTER

- a) The offer from the Isle of Wight Council to source funding for the replacement of the roof on the West Cliffs Shelter if the Town Council would then be willing to take on its management, including responsibility for ongoing maintenance under a lease was discussed.
- b) Councillor James Toogood commented that it would be necessary to inspect the rest of the structure before agreeing to a lease.

It was proposed by Councillor Tony Marvin, seconded by Councillor James Toogood and unanimously resolved that:

the Town Council welcomes the proposal from the Isle of Wight Council and asks its Assets and Services Group to progress the discussions to the point of a draft lease for a future meeting of the Town Council.

50/17 ROAD CROSSING PATROL SERVICE

- a) An email dated 5 May from St Francis Primary School's School Business Manager, on behalf of the Finance Working Group of Governors, has requested the Town Council to consider funding the continuation of the service in full or in part for the whole of the next school year.
- b) The Mayor said that under new funding arrangements the School would lose £38,000 a year from its budget.
- c) Councillor Brian Lucas said that a contribution from Free School would be appropriate.
- d) Councillor Stewart Blackmore said that the Free School were committed to ensuring safety of children in the area of their site and the Mayor added that he thought the Free School should be approached and Interserve as its builders.
- e) Councillor Billy Hill said that he had been made very aware of parents concerns about safety.

It was proposed by Councillor Brian Lucas, seconded by Councillor Dave Logan

and unanimously resolved that:

the Town Council is prepared to consider a contribution and asks its Mayor to encourage the Free School and Interserve to join in the amount needed to meet the full cost.

51/17 NHS TRUST

- a) The Mayor reported on his attendance at the Extraordinary Meeting of the Island's NHS Trust Board, drawing attention to its acceptance in full of the Care Quality Commission's Report and the appointment of an Interim Chief Executive and the role of the Improvement Director.
 - b) He added that an Action Plan is in preparation and will be presented to the next Board Meeting on 2 June and it is predicted that release from Special Measures will take 12-18 months.
 - c) Councillor Stewart Blackmore thanked the Mayor for his report of the meeting saying that he found it very depressing and that he was disappointed that the Board is still in place in view of the judgement of its performance by the Care Quality Commission.
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52/17 ISLE OF WIGHT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (IWALC)

- a) The Mayor reported on his first attendance at the IWALC meeting of 18 May as the Town Council's representative.
 - b) Although the meeting's appointment of its representative to the Health and Wellbeing Board went to Isle of Wight Councillor Geoff Brodie, he has been appointed Deputy.
 - c) He said that he has also been appointed as IWALC's Representative to both the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and Community Action IW.
 - d) Councillor Ed Gouge asked if IWALC was in a position to have more detailed routine discussions with Island Roads.
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53/17 TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

- a) The Town Clerks' Report – 39/17 – recorded recent activity which did not require Town Council decisions at this time.
 - b) It included information on Working Group meeting dates, the latest Library Steering Group meeting, Health & Wellbeing, Ventnor Business Association, Upper Ventnor Community Association, Car Parks and Grounds Maintenance
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PUBLIC FORUM

There were no questions or comments at this time.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.20PM

SIGNED BY THE MAYOR

DATE
